

Annexation by junior college districts of territory in a district's service area

SB 315 by Hinojosa (Luna)

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| DIGEST: | SB 315 would have allowed certain junior college districts to annex contiguous territory outside the district for taxing purposes if a majority of registered voters in the area to be annexed voted for the expansion in a general election. If the governing body of the affected district was elected from single-member districts, the annexed territory would have been assigned to one or more of those single-member districts before the next board election. The bill would have been bracketed to affect only Del Mar College within the City of Corpus Christi Junior College District. |
| GOVERNOR'S REASON FOR VETO: | "Senate Bill No. 315 would allow one junior college to alter current state requirements for annexing counties into its taxing district." |
| RESPONSE: | <p>Sen. Juan Hinojosa, the bill's author, said: "I'm very disappointed that the governor vetoed SB 315. Study after study shows that an educated community creates a healthy economy and a well-trained workforce. I will continue looking at the issue of community college financing and how these colleges can best expand their service districts."</p> <p>Rep. Vilma Luna, the House sponsor, said: "This is a huge blow for education for our area. The state has not stepped up to the task of funding community colleges in recent years. The Coastal Bend's economic development is tied to the quality of our workforce. My hope is that the governor will identify funding for Del Mar and economic development for Corpus Christi in the near future. We cannot afford to wait and let Corpus Christi lag behind other communities."</p> <p>"I will continue to work on this issue in the next session. Del Mar plays too important a role in the Coastal Bend to let this go. At the same time I was working on the Del Mar bill, I had filed a similar bill with statewide effect. Sen. Bill Ratliff had worked with me on the statewide version of the bill. I have been in constant communication with the Governor's Office throughout the review of this bill, and I intend to pursue this issue in the next session."</p> |
| NOTES: | SB 315 passed the House on the Local, Consent, and Resolutions Calendar and was not analyzed in a <i>Daily Floor Report</i> . |